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| TO:                         | FROM:                               |
| Examiner: Paul D. KIM       | Stephen T. Neal                     |
| COMPANY:                    | DATE:                               |
| USPTO                       | January 30, 2006                    |
| FAX NUMBER:                 | TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: |
| (571) 273-8300              | 6                                   |
| PHONE NUMBER:               | SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:          |
|                             | 12553/97                            |
| RE:                         | YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:              |
| Application No.: 10/691,172 | Group Art Unit: 3729                |

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Notes/Comments: RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

1. Fax Cover Sheet (1)
2. Response to Restriction Requirement (5)

Total: (6) pages

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Dated: January 30, 2006

Handwritten signature of Barbara Vance.  
Signature: Barbara Vance  
Barbara Vance

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Patent

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Attorney Docket No.: 12553/97

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : Ming Gao YAO et al.  
SERIAL NO. : 10/691,172  
FILED : October 22, 2003  
FOR : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A HARD  
DISK DRIVE SUSPENSION FLEXURE AND FOR  
PREVENTING DAMAGE DUE TO ELECTRICAL ARCING  
GROUP ART UNIT : 3729  
EXAMINER : Paul D. KIM

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| Date: January 30, 2006  | Signature: <u>Barbara Vance</u><br>Barbara Vance |

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 29, 2005, kindly cancel claims 17-32, (Group II), without prejudice, leaving claims 1-16, (Group I) in this application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.